

WALDEN  
FAMCETT

100 PAGES! NEW ADVENTURE!

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY



# DENNIS the MENACE

IN

# MEXICO

25c  
No. 8



# Saludos, Amigos!

## HALLDEN DIVISION

PAPERETT PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
20 WEST 44th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N.Y.

Dear Reader:

Your traveling comic book team, artist Al Wiseman and writer Fred Toole, have been on another Densho expedition for you---this time to a country entirely different from ones in language, customs, and history, and yet just below the border---Mexico!

After flying to Mexico City, Al and Fred covered over 2,000 miles by car through the heart of this colorful country to get the ideas and scenes in this book.

Your team saw ten times as much as they could get into one book, so they suggest that if you enjoy "Densho in Mexico" you'll enjoy visiting our great and good neighbor to the south---a country so different, so "foreign" and yet so close---Mexico!

Sincerely,

*Harry Slater*

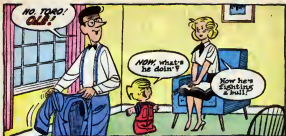
Harry Slater,  
Publisher

How not  
taken a DENSHO...  
he's taking a  
*comic*



# "LA CUCARACHA"





WE KNOW WHERE MEXICO IS, SO LET'S GET DENNIS AND HIS FOLKS THERE **RIGHT NOW!**

**WHOOSH!!**



Is this Mexico, Dad?

Yep! Mexico City, the capital. Around 5 million people. I understand!



You can't understand **SAVILLA** people? All talkin' Spanish? All at **OMG?**

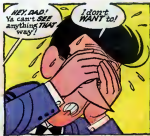
I didn't **SAY** that!



**BROTHER**, if I ever understand **YOU!**...

But ya **SAY**...

Mr. Mitchell?





Slow down, huh?  
Er... *Despacio?*

Si, señor!

Isn't this  
*BEAUTIFUL*,  
Dennis?

*NAH!*



OF COURSE  
it is! It's a  
**BEAUTIFUL**  
city!

Oh! I  
thought  
you meant  
the **FACT!**



I'll call for  
you tomorrow  
to show you the  
city. Today you  
have free.

Free? We  
don't have a  
**RAY** for  
**NOTHING**'S

Fine!

No..it means  
we can do  
anything we  
want.

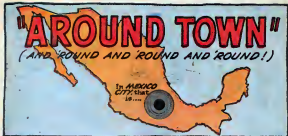


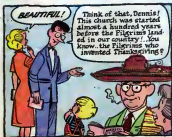
**YIPPEE!**

**NOT ANYTHING,  
DENNIS!**




















This is the Aztec calendar stone, weighing 25,000 pounds. It took the Aztecs 82 years to carve, and was completed in 1479. So it was in use 105 years before the calendar we use today. The Aztecs had a year of 18 months, of 20 days each. Here we see the day of the Snake, the Lizard, the House, the Wind...



That *CAN'T* be a calendar, Mister!



Oh, no? Why not?

'Cause it don't have no pretty pictures... no pages... no numbers...



...an' it's too heavy to hang on the kitchen wall!

Ai, CHIHUANDA!

AAAA! End of CULTURE! lesson!





AAA! That's what I'm looking forward to seeing!

AAA! Not ME!

AAA! Just a Guy playin' with a Cow!



You know what I'd like for a souvenir of Mexico? One of those bullfighters swords!

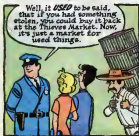
Excuse me, sir, you mean an *ESTRQUE?*



May I suggest, that you might be able to buy a weed one at the Thieves Market.

Say, I've heard of that!

*Where place?*



Well, it *USED* to be said, that if you had something stolen, you could buy it back at the Thieves Market. Now, it's just a market for used things.

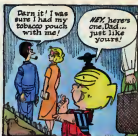


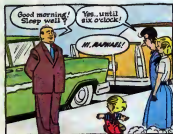
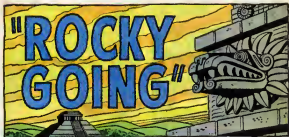
**TOXSEE!**

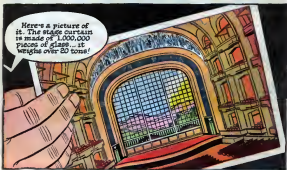
Oh, AAA! Do we speak to?

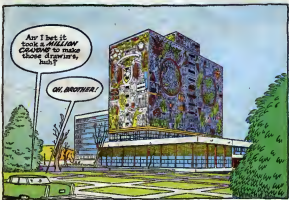
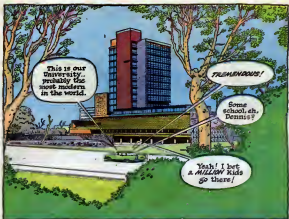


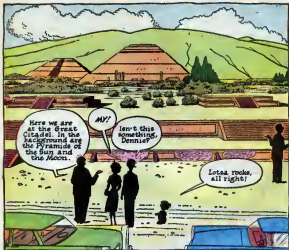










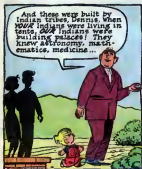


Here we are at the Great Citadel. In the background are the Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon.

AW!

Isn't this something, Dennis?

Lotsa rocks, all right!



And these were built by Indian tribes, Dennis. When ~~now~~ Indians were living in tents, ~~now~~ Indians were building palaces! They knew astronomy, mathematics, medicine ...



They had more ~~AW!~~

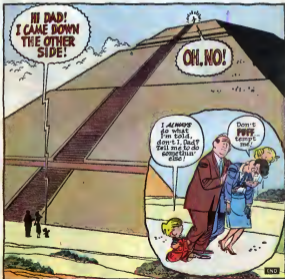
WOO!  
WOO!

YAYEE!







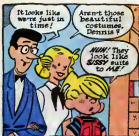


# TORO!



(SPANISH WORD FOR BULL)





It looks like we're just in time!

Aren't those beautiful costumes, Dennis?

MAN! They look like **BOSSY** suits to ME!



MAN, MAN! I'll explain what happens. First of all...



At **EXACTLY 4 AM.**, the trumpets blare and drums roll at a signal from the Judge...here called the **AFRONTADO**. A horseman dressed in black, then gallops across the bull ring, pulling up in front of the judge...he's the **AFRONTADO**. The Judge gives the Agradual permission for the fight to begin. Next, the horseman backs his horse across the ring to take his place in front of the procession of bullfighters that are waiting on the **SOL** (sunny) side opposite the Judge's box...which is always on the **SOMBRA** (shady) side.

The **AFRONTADO** (or procession) now moves across the ring while the band plays the traditional two-step of the matadors **LA MACHINA de la MACHINA**. Notice the three **AFRONTADOS** who are in front, the senior Matador is always on the left. They will all salute the Judge, the parade will break up, and the bullfight begins.

the Matador plays the bull to see how he charges. watch, now, Dennis...



... Next, the Picadores, with their lances, test the bull.

*OUR* cowboys  
wouldn't do *THAT*,  
would they, Mom?

No, Dennis.

The *PLAZA  
ABIEGO* is  
the largest  
bull-ring in  
the world  
its seating  
capacity is  
50,000!



... then, the Banderillero places his darts, called Banderillas.

...an' our *INDIANS*  
would *SHOOT* them  
arrows with a *BOW*  
wouldn't they?

Yes, dear.



... finally, after many daring and graceful passes, the Matador ...

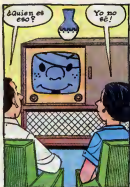
*DAD!* You gonna  
do *THAT* with the  
meat you bought?

Of course not!











# Spanish for fun!

JUST FILL IN THE  
CLUES AND YOU'VE  
LEARNED SOME  
SPANISH WORDS

## WHERE

TO SUM UP	A	D
OPPOSITE OF COLD	H	T
FINISH	E	D
UNUSUAL	O	D
SHE	H	R

## AIRPLANE

HEAD COVERING	H	T
ADAM'S WIFE	E	E
A METAL	T	N
COOKING UTENSIL	P	T
THE FIRST NUMBER	O	E

## AFTERNOON

CONSUMED	A	E
ROBERT	R	T
NOAH'S BOAT	A	K
TO SUM UP	A	D
OPPOSITE OF DRY	W	T

## HOW

BIGGEST PLAYING CARD	A	E
PLAYTHING	T	Y
AMOUNT (ASER)	A	T
OPPOSITE OF GIRL	B	Y

## IN

EGG-LAYER	H	N
FINISH	E	D

## EYE

OPPOSITE OF COLD	H	T
LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE (ASER)	L	G
2000 POUNDS	T	N

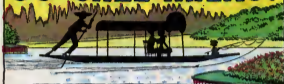
## More Spanish...

I AM HUNGRY    *TIENGO HAMBRE*  
 WHAT IS WRONG?    *¿QUE PASA?*  
 GOOD NIGHT    *BUENAS NOCHES*  
 I AM COLD    *TIENGO FRÍO*  
 I AM HOT    *TIENGO CALOR*  
 HOW MUCH IS THIS?    *¿CUÁNTO CUESTA ESTO?*  
 I AM VERY SORRY    *LO SIENTO MUCHO*

SUNDAY    *DOMINGO*  
 MONDAY    *LUNES*  
 TUESDAY    *MARTES*  
 WEDNESDAY    *MIÉRCOLES*  
 THURSDAY    *JUEVES*  
 FRIDAY    *VIERNES*  
 SATURDAY    *SÁBADO*



# SO-CHEE-MILKO!



So-chee-milko?  
That sounds like  
a *SILLY* name  
for a place!

Well that's  
how you  
pronounce  
Kochimilco  
... it means  
'The Place of  
the Flowers'!



*FLOWERS?! I DON'T WANNA  
GO TO NO FLOWER PLACE!*

Now,  
Dennis!



On the way, I want you to  
see the *SHRINE OF GUADALUPE!*

What's  
*THAT?*



It's this church, Dennis ..  
to the Lady of Guadalupe!

*LET'S  
GET  
OUTTA  
HERE!*

*HURT!*



# THE LEGEND

... he came on a beautiful Lady, who seemed to glow with a heavenly light. This light turned the stones she stood on, and the trees near her, into precious jewels.

Juan Diego fell to his knees, and the Lady told him that she was the Virgin Mary, and that she wanted a church built on this spot in her honor, so that all might know her love for the Mexican people. And Juan Diego said, with wonder, that her skin was brown, like his own. "But what can I do, Holy Mother?" Juan asked. "I am only a poor peasant!"



"But what can I do, Holy Mother?" Juan asked. "I am only a poor peasant!"

Then the Lady told him to carry her message to the Bishop of Mexico, in nearby Mexico City, and Juan hurried all the way to the palace of the Bishop. After much difficulty, he was allowed to see the Bishop, and he poured out the story of the vision he had seen. The Bishop was sympathetic, but very busy, and could hardly believe Juan's story. "It is possible," he said, "but I cannot be going off to investigate miracles until I have proof. Bring me some sign of this vision you have seen, and I will gladly investigate."

Faithful Juan hurried back to the spot where he had seen the Lady, and found her there waiting for him.

# OF GUADALUPE

"I have seen the Bishop, Señora Mia," he said, "but he says he cannot come until I bring some proof that I have seen you. I do not think he believes me."

Then the Lady told him to take his cloak, and go up the hill, and gather roses in it. Juan could hardly believe his ears. It was winter, and bitter cold... roses could not be blooming now! Obediently, though, he went, and was amazed to find the hillside covered with beautiful roses of Spain, blooming in the icy ground.

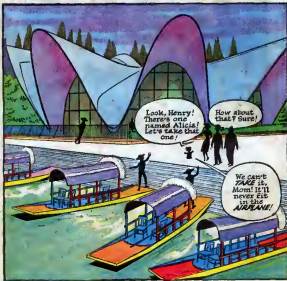
He filled his cloak with roses, and returned to the Lady. She told him that these miraculously blooming roses were her sign to convince the Bishop that she had appeared here, her sign to have the church built in her honor. With his bundle of roses, Juan Diego returned to the palace of the Bishop.



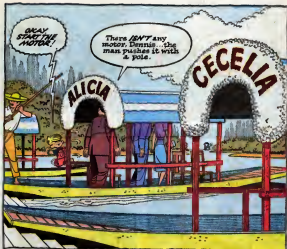
The Bishop was amazed when the beautiful roses tumbled from the peasant's cloak. But even more amazed when he saw what had happened to the cloak itself. For there was now imprinted on the cloak, as if colored by the roses, a beautiful picture of the Lady. The Bishop was convinced, and the church was built. The beautiful picture of the Lady, on Juan Diego's poor cloak, was framed and placed in the church for all to see.

The picture is still there, and people come from all over Mexico to see it, to ask the Lady for help, and to thank her for help received. In their love and devotion, many come walking on their knees.

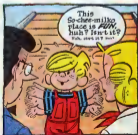
The Lady of Guadalupe is very deep in the hearts of the Mexican people.

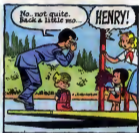




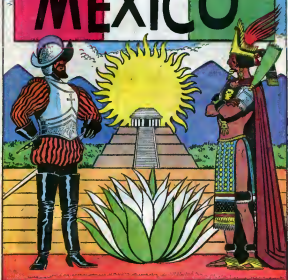








# THE STORY OF MEXICO



**W**hen Christopher Columbus landed in Cuba...which he believed was China?... little did he or the world realize that, just a few hundred miles away, in what is now Mexico, there lay a rich city of over 200,000 people, the heart of a great Empire. This Empire was that of the Aztecs, and they had founded their city in 1325.

They had come down from the North, a ragged, hungry people, searching for a place where their gods had told them to settle... a place where they would see an eagle perched on a cactus plant, with a serpent in its mouth. They saw this sight... which you can still see on the flag of Mexico, near present-day Mexico City, and obtained permission from the local Indians to settle there.

The Aztecs were fierce and warlike... they believed that their god, Mexitli, demanded human sacrifices, and so they constantly raided other tribes for prisoners to slaughter on his altar. But as they conquered other tribes, they learned from them, too... and there was much to learn. Because, at the very same time that our American Indians were living in skin tents, the Indian races of Mexico were building palaces, and pyramids larger than any in Egypt.

Thousands of years before Columbus, the Mexican Indians were making fabulous jewelry, beautiful paintings, they were masters of geometry, astronomy, and medicine. All this is what the Aztecs took over. But they gained two other things which led to their downfall. One was the hate of the tribes that they conquered. And the other was a strange persistent legend that new gods would come to rule them... gods from over the sea, with beards and white skins. And the gods did come... white gods on horseback... the men of Cortés!



**H**ernando Cortés was one of the many young Spaniards seeking their fortunes in Cuba, but he differed from all the rest in his intelligence, spirit of adventure, and great energy. These were the qualities that caused the governor of Cuba to select him to lead the expedition to conquer Mexico. The army that sailed from Cuba in eleven ships was a tiny one to conquer a great nation... only 508 foot soldiers, 52 archers, 18 musketeers, 16 horses for the officers, and 200 Cuban Indian burden-bearers. But Cortés was counting on the surprise and fear he would cause with his muskets and horses, neither of which the Indians had ever seen.

Landing, he founded the city of Vera Cruz; and there to prevent any possibility of retreat, he burned all his ships and headed inland.



The little army met some hostile tribes and defeated them, but Cortés was surprised and delighted to find that most of the Indians hated the ruling Aztecs, and wanted to help conquer them! So it was that when he finally reached the great Aztec capital, it was met with just a few hundred men but with thousands of allies. When Cortés saw the city of Tenochtitlan, with its broad avenues and glittering palaces, he saw what a rich prize it was. But as a soldier, he saw how difficult it would be to take. For the city was built on an island in the middle of a large lake, and could only be reached by easily-defended bridges. Then he saw an amazing sight... the Aztec Emperor himself, Montezuma, coming out to welcome him! Montezuma and his people thought that the Spaniards were the white gods that their ancient legend had said would come. Cortés had conquered the Aztec empire without firing a shot!

**T**he Aztecs showered the "white gods" with gifts of gold and jewels, but Cortés knew that they would soon discover that he and his men were only humans, so he seized the Emperor, Montezuma as hostage, and held him prisoner in his own palace. Then bad news came. An Aztec scout reported that 1,000 more Spaniards had landed... an army sent to capture Cortés by the governor of Cuba, jealous of Cortés' success.

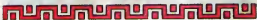
Leaving a few men to guard the Emperor, Cortés took his army to meet the new arrivals, and defeated them with a surprise attack.

Then he persuaded them to join him. Just as he was preparing to go back to the capital with his new, larger army, a new blow fell.



Cortés had left his guard in the royal palace under the command of a lieutenant, Pedro de Alvarado.

While Cortés was away, an Aztec holy day occurred, a day on which they were to make human sacrifices. Alvarado, trying to prevent this, killed some of the Aztecs. Enraged, they attacked the palace, and lieutenant Alvarado was barely able to hold off the mob until Cortés returned.



Cortés forced Montezuma to go out and speak to the crowd to try to calm them. But the Aztecs were furious at their Emperor, thinking that he had betrayed them. Stones, spears, and arrows flew, and Montezuma fell... dead. Now Cortés had no hostage, and was surrounded by a fierce people determined to kill the invaders they now knew were not gods. Cortés was forced to retreat in the night. That night has gone down in Mexican history as the "Noche Triste"... the sad night.





**F**ighting their way along the narrow bridges that linked the island-city to the mainland, the Spaniards were attacked from all sides by Aztecs in boats. They threw away their treasures, and still the showers of spears and arrows came.

Only their courage and desperation, and Cortés' fierce leadership, allowed them to reach the mainland. As it was, over 800 Spaniards were killed, 80 horses, and unknown thousands of Indian allies, in that Bad Night.

Reaching the mainland at last, Cortés looked at the bodies of his comrades, and saw others being led back to the city to be sacrificed, and he wept. The battered army, not one soldier without a wound, withdrew to rest. But Cortés had left behind in the city his greatest soldier, one that was to kill more Aztecs than any army could...smallpox! One of his men who had been taken prisoner had a mild case of smallpox. That had not affected the Spaniards, because most of them had had the disease, and were immune. But the disease was new to the Aztecs, and spread like wildfire among them. As Cortés was gathering new Indian allies, the Aztecs were dying by the thousands in their city.



When Cortés again attacked, this time by means of small boats he had built, the city held out for 75 days, then surrendered.

Cortés entered to find the once beautiful city in ruins, the palaces leveled, littered with bodies, infested with disease.

It was to be 300 years before so great a city would rise on the American continent.

**T**he fall of the Aztec Empire marked the real beginning of the Spanish Empire in the new world. Cortés and his men set up huge ranches for themselves, with the Indians to do the work for them. Expeditions were sent as far north as Oregon. DeSoto discovered the Mississippi; and the Spanish Empire spread to what is now California, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and Florida.

Cortés died in 1547, and was succeeded by other governors of Mexico. As the centuries went on, all the historic buildings and churches we see today were built. Spanish priests founded schools and a University. The Indians were taught to make tools and machines. It was a time of great peace and progress, but trouble lay just under the surface.

There was no democracy in Mexico. The Indians were practically slaves. The middle class, of mixed Spanish and Indian blood, were allowed to hold only minor jobs. Just a handful of powerful Spaniards controlled the huge ranches, the businesses, the Army, the government, and answered only to the King of Spain.

No wonder there was resentment to this system... yet Spain held on to Mexico for 400 years.



Mexico finally became independent in 1821 after many struggles, under the leadership of many brave men, but still her troubles were not over. She became involved in a war with the United States which resulted in her yielding up all her territory north of the Rio Grande river. The French Emperor attempted to take over the country. Revolutions came and went. One President held office for 30 years... another for less than one hour!

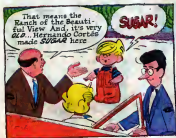
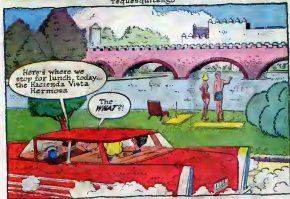
All this you can learn about in the modern history of Mexico, but we wanted to start you with the story of her beginnings.

For Mexico is proud of her Indian heritage, and of being the oldest civilization on the American continent.



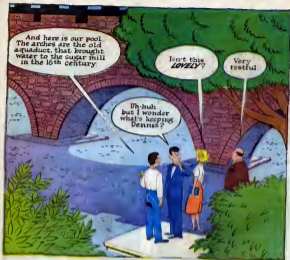
# DENNIS...THE HACIENDA-ENDER

Tequesquite











WHY DENNIS...  
**WHY?**

Well...  
what's a  
swimming  
pool, AUNT?

DENNIS,  
I COULD...

I'm awfully  
sorry!

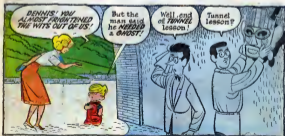
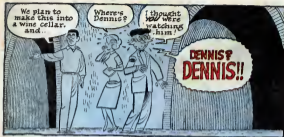
Don't  
mention  
it!

I found  
his clothes  
up on the  
aqueduct.







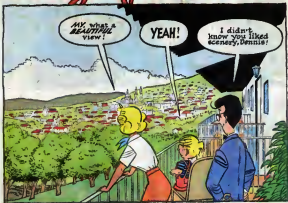






TANCO

# City of Silver!







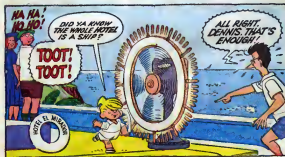


















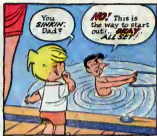


SO, THANKS TO VICTOR... AND HIS COMIC BOOKS... DENNIS' PALS WERE ABLE TO ENJOY THE REST OF THE LEISURELY CAUSE OF THE BEAUTIFUL BAY OF ACAPULCO.





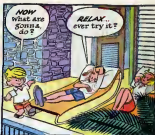






You sure were **GOOD** for just **ONE** lesson, Dad!

Uh-huh, **ONE** and **DONE!**



**NOY!** What are gonna do?

**RELAX..** ever try it?



**WHEE! WHAT A CRAZY ELEVATOR!**



**DENNIS!**



**GO AHEAD AN' RELAX, YOU GUYS! I'LL JUST RIDE THIS ELEVATOR!**

AFTER MANY RELAXING HOURS...



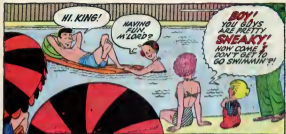
Dennis at the Castillo  
Santa Cecilia...

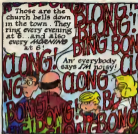
# King of the Castle

Guanajuato



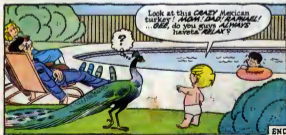










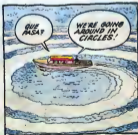


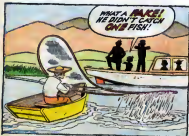
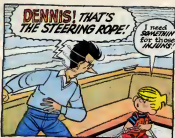
# ROCKIN' the BOAT!



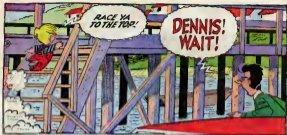
We're going out  
to that island. Dennis  
The people there are all  
Tarascan Indians!

GGG, I should've  
brought my  
cowboy guns!











In Guadalajara...

(Pronounced Gwa-da-la-har-ah)

# GUADALAJARA!

# GUADALAJARA!



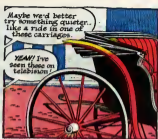


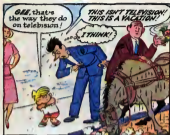
AND, AFTER LUNCH...

This is the Orphanage.  
Some of the children are  
orphans, others stay here  
while their parents work.

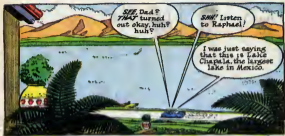
Instead of  
nannies, huh?





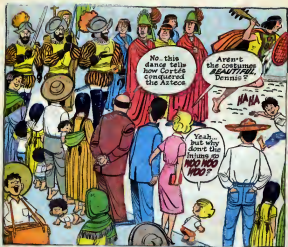






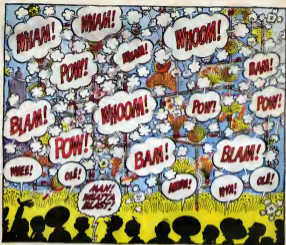












AND SO AFTER A VERY EXCITING COLORFUL FIESTA, DEYING AND HIS FOLKS SAY GOODBYE TO RAFAEL, AND MEXICO... AND START THEIR RETURN HOME..



*It's  
easy*

# TO SPEAK SPANISH!

Just pronounce the Spanish words by sound, and you'll be speaking this interesting foreign language in just a few minutes!

<b>Hello!</b> Buenos días! BWAY-nohs BAY-ehs	<b>Yes</b> Sí SEE	<b>No</b> No NOH	<b>Perhaps</b> Quizás KEE-dahs
<b>What is your name?</b> Cómo se llama usted? KOH-meh seh FYAH-mah oh-STEEH?		<b>A little</b> Un poco OHN poh-oh	<b>A lot</b> Mucho MOO-choh
<b>My name is...</b> Mi nombre MEH FYAH-meh		<b>We are friends</b> Somos amigos SOH-mohs ah-MEH-yohs	
<b>How are you?</b> Cómo está usted? KOH-meh eh-TAH oh-STEEH?		<b>I like to...</b> Me gusta MEH GOO-stah	
<b>Five, thanks.</b> Cinco, gracias. SEEN, GRAH-syahs		<b>Read</b> Leer LEH-eh	<b>Play</b> Jugar HOO-gahs
<b>Where do you live?</b> ¿Dónde vive usted? DOHN-deh VEH-vehh oh-STEEH?		<b>Sing</b> Cantar KAHN-tahs	<b>Dance</b> Bailar BY-lahs
<b>I live in...</b> Yo vivo en... YOH VEH-veh oh...		<b>Eat</b> Comer KOH-meh	<b>Sleep</b> Dormir DOHR-meh
<b>I like you!</b> ¡Me gusta! OH-STEEH meh GOO-stah			<b>See you later!</b> Hasta la vista! AH-stah lah VEH-stah
<b>Do you like me?</b> ¿Le gusta yo a usted? LEH GOO-stah yoh ah oh-STEEH			<b>Good-bye!</b> Adios! Ah-d'YOHs

